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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of

Applicant : S. B. Cirulli, et al
Serial No. : 09/815,312
Filed : 22 March 2001

Examiner : Firmin Backer
Group : 3621

Entitled : System and Method for Leveraging
Procurement Across Companies and Company
Groups
Docket No. : END920000176US1

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner
for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED
JUL 06 2004
GROUP 3600

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Advisory Action of 27 May 2004, further responsive to the Office action of 25 Feb 2004, and entered preliminary to consideration of the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) filed concurrently herewith.